



Fauquier County Agricultural Development Office 2002 Highlights



Mission: To promote the agricultural industry within Fauquier County, to increase the economic viability of farming and to advise the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors on matters affecting the agricultural economy and its development.

Promotion activities:

- FauquierAg.com - Branding of Fauquier Agriculture - tying together events (Small Farm Festival, HomeGrown Dinner/ County Fair, Fall Farm Tour) through cross promotion promotes all Fauquier Agriculture....
- Fauquier Homegrown Label – 2002 Fall Farm Tour Survey - 20% respondents have purchase product with label.
- Youth promotion - "*Outstanding and Dedicated Service to 4-H*" awarded to ADO

Enhancing activities:

- Purchase of Development Rights program started - 6 farms offered 1,777 acres and 102 development rights
- Meat Processing facility site design plans underway
- Fairgrounds – New Multipurpose building erected
- Virginia Independent Growers Cooperative – second full year of operation
- Fauquier Farm Product Directory – source book for Fauquier grown products
- Initiated Forest Products review – a complete resource guide is now on line at www.FauquierAg.com.

Policy activities:

- The Purchase of Development Rights/ Farmland Preservation Program for the county was developed.
- Drought - working with Chairman Graham and Farm Service agency Livestock Compensation Program and Livestock Assistance Program passed congress signup due to begin on April 1, 2003.
- 2001 Equine Summary – Horse industry economic impact to Fauquier \$53 million.
- Zoning Ordinance - review
 - Value added facilities
 - Ag tourism
 - Rural / Ag and 4-H friendly zoning
- Guest Speaker at Ag Advisory Committee meetings
 - Dairy Industry outlook - Virginia Dairyman's Association Executive Secretary
 - Wetland Mitigation - Jamie Ingram
 - Corn Burning Wood Stoves – Steven Criswell Tractor Supply
 - Forest and non- timber forest products – Chuck Hoysa